

REPORT TO ALBERTANS
SUMMARY OF FACILITY DESIGNATIONS UNDER THE *HEALTH CARE PROTECTION ACT*

Purpose: This document is intended to inform Albertans of non-hospital surgical facilities (NHSFs) that received facility designation under the *Health Care Protection Act* (HCPA) during the period of October 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015.

Zone: Calgary and Edmonton

Insured Surgical Service:
Oral and Maxillofacial- Calgary
Ophthalmology-Edmonton

Background:

The HCPA came into effect September 2000. The purpose of the HCPA is to protect Alberta's publicly funded health care system, while allowing NHSFs that have been designated by the Minister of Health (the Minister) to provide select insured surgical services to Albertans. The HCPA prohibits the operation of private hospitals for the provision of insured surgical services.

Proposal Assessment Summary:

- AHS enters into agreements with operators of NHSFs to provide insured surgical services to Albertans. The associated NHSFs must be designated by the Minister of Health, prior to delivering the contracted insured surgical services.
- Proposals from AHS are reviewed by Alberta Health (the Ministry) to determine whether there is a public benefit from the agreement for the publicly funded health system.
- When the Minister approves an agreement between AHS and the operator of a NHSF, many factors are taken into consideration. These factors include:
 - maintenance or increase of public access to the services,
 - whether or not the quality of services provided in the NHSF is equal to or better than the same services provided in a hospital setting,
 - flexibility in accommodating patients (whether or not the agreement provides increased choice of service providers for patients),
 - efficient use of existing surgical capacity, and
 - cost effectiveness and other economic considerations.
- In reviewing the cost effectiveness of a proposal, AHS compares the cost of providing the proposed insured surgical service in a NHSF with the cost of providing the same insured surgical service within a public hospital. By delivering specialized services, many NHSFs are able to maintain significantly lower overhead costs than a public hospital.
- The proposals submitted to the Ministry by AHS were assessed to confirm that they meet the legislated requirements.
- Pursuant to the terms of any agreement as between AHS and a NHSF operator, AHS agrees to pay a contracted "facility fee" to the operators of NHSFs. This fee covers such costs as office space, staff salaries and benefits, supplies, utilities, debt servicing and other overhead costs.
- Physicians who provide insured surgical services to patients in a NHSF are paid on a fee-for-service basis through the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan. These fees are the same regardless of whether the physician provides the insured service in a hospital setting or in a NHSF.
- The HCPA also requires that NHSFs providing insured surgical services to be accredited by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta.

The following table summarizes the facility designations granted or amended by the Minister of Health under the HCPA during the period of October 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015:

Category of Surgical Services	Designated Facility Name	Reason for Designating the Facility or Amending the Designation
Ophthalmology	Audrey Chan Prof. Corp	Continued facility designation is required to ensure access to insured ophthalmology surgical services in the Edmonton Zone. The amendment to the designation was due to a change in the NHSF name (from Royce L.C. Johnson PC to Audrey Chan Prof. Corp.).
Ophthalmology	LASIK MD Oliver Village and Cataract MD Edmonton	Continued facility designation is required to ensure access to insured ophthalmology surgical services in the Edmonton Zone. The amendment to the designation was due to a change in the NHSF name (from FYidoctors Oliver Village to LASIK MD Oliver Village and Cataract MD Edmonton).
Oral and Maxillofacial	South Calgary Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery	Continued facility designation of these facilities is required to ensure access to insured oral and maxillofacial surgical services in the Calgary Zone. Amendments to the facility designation were required to accurately reflect the contracted operators providing services out of the South Calgary Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery facility. Two contracts between AHS and operators were terminated and one new agreement was entered into.
	Marlborough Surgicentre	
	Royal View Surgi-Centre	
	Dr. Douglas J. Vincelli	
	Steve Bureau Oral Maxillofacial Surgery	

Approval: Original Signed
 Janet Davidson, Deputy Minister

Date: April 14, 2015